



The success of your club's newsletter is dependent in part on what is submitted for publication. Please, if you have something to share send it to the editor. We are always looking for positive input, so why don't you drop me a line today!

Hinges & Tongs

ROCHESTER PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION, INC

P.O. Box 10206, BRIGHTON STATION,
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14610-0206

Aug./Sept. 1999

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Chapter Member of the American Philatelic Society
207-19273

Chapter # 69 of the American First Day Cover Society

<http://rpa.homepage.com/index.html>
Check out the RPA Home Page

CORNING AMERICAN GLASS FIRST DAY

with Rick, Tom, Chuck

by Chuck Schultz

The Corning Museum of Glass in Corning, N.Y. was the site of the First Day of Issue for the American Glass Commemorative Stamps. The Corning Museum of Glass had just completed expansion and transformation. So the First Day event provided a good forum for everyone to see the renewed Museum of Glass.



Rick and I arrived early enough to sit in on the briefings given to the Museum workers for the event. The Museum Shop had cards, envelopes, puzzles, book-marks and T-shirts with the stamp's design on them for sale. Needless to say we bought a few and had them cancelled. Rick had brought a few special Corningwear items to stamp and cancel.

The event started at 10 A.M. in the museum's auditorium. A little over 300 people were in attendance. The Ceremony programs were given out as you entered the auditorium. The Ceremony was started with a demonstration of free-blown glass in which the green bottle on the Free-Blown Glass stamp was replicated. A Craftsman from the Corning Glass Museum used a blowpipe and hot glass to recreate this bottle.

Marie McKee President of the Corning Museum of Glass gave the welcoming remarks. She welcomed everyone to the renewed, expanded and transformed museum of Glass. She said this event and the new stamp united the passions of Glass and Stamp collecting. Following the welcome Ben Franklin 1st Postmaster was introduced. He gave a lecture following the ceremony in the museum.

Kitty Carlisle Hart Retired Chairman N.Y.S. Council on the Arts was the main speaker. In her remarks she shared

(Continued on page 2)

We meet on the second and fourth Thursday of most months between September and June. Our headquarters are in St. Paul's Episcopal Church Parish Hall, on the corner of East Avenue and Vick Park B, across from the George Eastman House. A buy/sell/trade session runs from 7-7:45 PM, followed by the formal meeting at 7:45 PM. A silent auction concludes most evening's program.

(Continued from page 1)

CORNING AMERICAN GLASS FIRST DAY remembrances of her last trip to Corning during the flood of 1972. She explained that glass is both a common and treasured part of our lives. The American Glass Stamps allowed many art forms-Glass, Photography and Stamps to be made a part of our lives.

Robert Reisner Vice President Strategic Planning for the U.S. Postal Service dedicated the Stamps. He presented framed reproductions to Kitty Carlisle Hart and David Whitehouse, Executive Director of the Corning Museum of Glass.

Following the Ceremony all the participants were available for autographs in the lobby of the museum. The glass objects featured on the stamps were also on display in the museum. The stamps were sold prior to and after the First Day Ceremony. Several Postal Service people from surrounding towns were available and the First Day of Issue cancels went quickly



Guest columnist George M. Hill, 3rd, formerly a PNC
(Part Two - - "Faltering First Steps")

For the formerly ***Perpetual Novice Collector**, having made the decision to "collect", a new purpose in philately will have been born. I read recently in Linn's Stamp News, May 17th edition, Page 6, by John M. Hotchner that we are legally the owners of our stamps..."but they are really ours 'in trust'". Wow! There is a statement that keeps the interest for "accumulators" to get our act together. This is another important motive to begin a "collection" so that order and safety will prevail for our accumulated items "in trust."

Whether you are an established collector or a novice, may I urge you to read the John H. Hotchner's article "*Some Do's and Don'ts of Stamp Collecting*". Just in case we need to be reminded and have our faith restored, the article for new and old collector, alike, will find the fiber of collecting clearly spelled out.

The first of the "First Faltering Steps", then, is general reading to establish a firm motive to justify expending time to accomplish a collection. Where do you get additional motivation? The answer should be obvious for those of us who actively pursue our membership in the Rochester Philatelic Association. The member across the table at our regular meetings is one of the best sources. There is nothing like information from some one that "has been there and done that".

The second step, is joining and maintaining active participation in a fine philatelic club. This maintenance of membership includes participation in club activities. You need to obtain the confidence of members and to learn about their collecting interests. With time, their collections will be shown to you. To see what others have done is truly the third step in the decision process. Shared experience has many rewards.

Visit this column next time entitled, "Collecting - - The First Draft".

RS STAMP SHOW

Saturday, September 25, 1999
And
Sunday, September 26, 1999

Red Men's Party House

1001 Lexington Avenue
(Corner Mt. Read Blvd.)
Rochester, N.Y. 14606

DOOR PRIZES
FREE PARKING
FOOD SERVICE

Sat. 10AM - 5PM Sun. 10AAM - 4PM

E-MAIL MESSAGE TO TOM FORTUNATO, RPA WEB MASTER, 7/29/99
Tom,

I called the General PO and found out that they have abandoned the Philatelic Window. Could you say something in our RPA Home Page to the effect that we should all write to :

John Montague, Postmaster
1335 Jefferson Rd.
Rochester, NY 14692

and request that it be reinstated.

George M. Hill, 3rd

RESPONSE FROM USPS CUSTOMER RELATIONS

Tom,

I would like the opportunity to respond to this email message:

It has been quite a few years since the Rochester Post Office had a dedicated by USPS Headquarters philatelic window. At the Rochester Main Office Windows we have had a designated window position to handle any philatelic requests. This employee was a window/distribution clerk, not a philatelic clerk. Since this person left the position it was decided to let ALL the clerks in this operation handle any philatelic requests with Bill Tisa a point of contact for philatelic information that they may need. Bill is very knowledgeable in this area. To be honest the number of customers who visit the windows for philatelic information and products is quite small and would not be cost effective for us to "lock" up a window position.

That being said the Rochester Post Office does appreciate our stamp collectors and are grateful to the RPA when we are invited to any of your events to participate. With the STAMPERS program we would like nothing more than to see the hobby of stamp collecting revive itself to past levels.

Let me assure you that Postmaster Montague and the entire Rochester NY Post Office appreciates the dedication and support of all stamp collectors and we will do everything to make sure your needs are filled.

I hope this clears up any misconception and feel free to call if I can help in any way.

Bob Scherzi
Customer Relations Coordinator
United States Postal Service
272-5993

New York Museum Of Transportation



The NYMT will be holding a special event on August 29, 1999 honoring 162 years of railroad history in western New York. The museum's operating season is year round, Sundays only, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Rides from May through October.

Located at 6393 East River Road in the Town of Rush, and can be reached by taking I-390 to Exit 11, Route 251 West 1 1/2 miles to the flashing red light (East River Road), then turning right (north) one mile to the New York Museum of Transportation. Prices range from \$3.00 to \$5.00 per person. You can call (716) 533-1113.

RPA's Norm Wright has accepted the invitation from the Museum & W. Henrietta Postal people to display his two railway-related exhibits at this event. They are:

Rochester (N.Y.) Rail Mail
And

Readin' (w)Ritin' & Railradin'

For this event they will be set up in the Gift Shop, so people interested in getting examples of the cancellation (but not wanting to visit the museum) can do so for no charge.

APS JOURNALS

The American Philatelist
1972 to date

1972-74 are bound

Are you interested in adding
to your library?

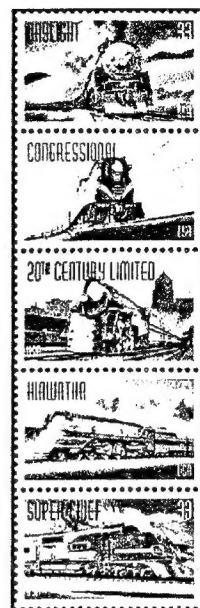
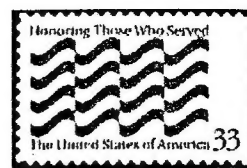
Contact Dave Engdahl
225-0223

Or e-mail
DAEPPH@RIT.EDU

Programs Schedule for Fall 1999

- ♦Sept. 9 "Airships of the United States" APS slideshow
- ♦Sept. 23 "U.S. Private-Die Proprietary Stamp Issues" APS slideshow
- ♦Oct. 9 Annual Stamp Month Celebration at Irondequoit Mall
See Tom Fortunato for details and to sign up for a great day of stamping.
- ♦Oct. 14 **LIVE RPA AUCTION**, 5 lot per member and any number of donation lots.
- ♦Oct. 28 "The Division of the Union", a review of postal history of the Civil War. APS slideshow
- ♦Nov. 11 "A History of Hawaii As Told Through Stamps" APS slideshow
- ♦Nov. 25 **NO MEETING** Happy Thanksgiving
- ♦Dec. 9 Holiday programming and Huge Silent Auction
- ♦Dec. 23 **NO MEETING** Happy Holidays
- ♦Jan. 1, 2000 **Happy New Year**
- ♦Jan 13 "Tonga Tin Can Mail" APS slideshow

Future programming to include a joint meeting with the Rochester Numismatic Association To Be Announced!

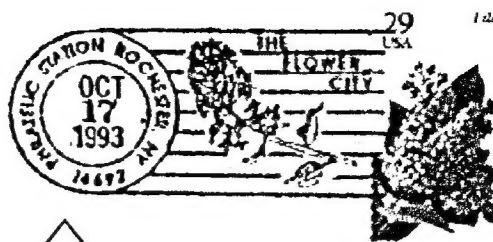
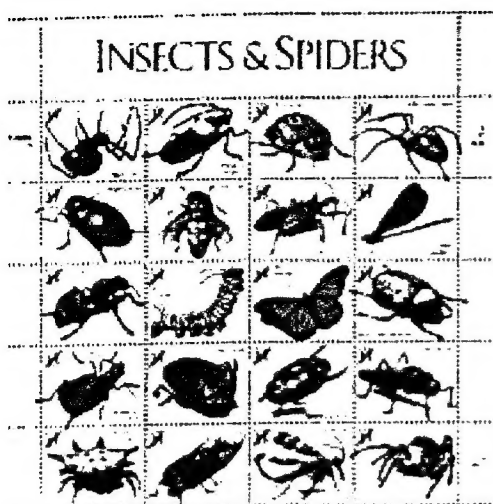


Aug. 16, Honoring Those Who Served. Single 33¢ commemorative stamp, pane of 20, AV, Kansas City, MO 64108 and nationwide; *Linn's*, Sept. 14, 1998, page 2; Aug. 9, page 1; USPS item No. 448140 (pane), 448120 (block of four), 448161 (FDC).

Aug. 25, Universal Postal Union. Single 45¢ stamp, pane of 20; AP; Beijing, China; *Linn's*, Aug. 2, page 1; USPS item No. 553420 (block of four), 553440 (pane), 553461 (FDC at 66¢).

Aug. 26, All Aboard! Five 33¢ commemorative stamps depicting Daylight, Congressional, 20th Century Limited, Hiawatha and Super Chief trains, pane of 20 and press sheet of 120; five 20¢ picture postal cards with matching designs in set of 20; AP; Cleveland, OH 44101 (official site), Union, IL 60180, and nationwide; *Linn's*, Sept. 14, 1998, page 2; June 14, page 2; Aug. 16, page 1; USPS item No. 407820 (strip of five), 407840 (pane), 407862 (FDC with strip of five at \$1.86), 407863 (FDC set of five at \$2.70), 407884 (press sheet at \$39.60), 407866 (postal card set).

Sept. 13, Frederick Law Olmsted. Single 33¢ commemorative stamp, pane of 20, AP, Boston, MA 02205; *Linn's*, Sept. 14, 1998, page 2; USPS item No. 447920 (block of four), 447940 (pane), 447961 (FDC at 54¢).



This cancel available anytime at the GMF

Catch the Stamp Collecting Bug Station

October 9, 1999
Rochester, NY 14617
RPA at Irondequoit Mall



Another Mall Celebration For Stamp Collecting Month

October's National Stamp Collecting Month Mall Event'99 is scheduled for Saturday, October 9 from 10-4 PM at Irondequoit Mall on Ridge Road East. This is our fifth such event, the first being at The Mall at Greece Ridge Center in 1995, followed by two visits to EastView Mall and last year at Marketplace Mall.

This year's theme revolves around the US Postal Service's release on October 1 of a sheet of 20 stamps featuring insects and spiders. Our commemorative cancel proudly sports a lady bug, more properly termed a "lady beetle" as featured on one of the stamps. The cancel is of a common design being used by some of the 700+ chapter clubs of the American Philatelic Society.

As in the past, RPA member volunteers will be on hand to answer questions about collecting from the general public. In addition to table displays and exhibits about stamp collecting, the RPA is trying to coordinate visits by the Seneca Park Zoo Society and area 4-H clubs explaining insects and their role in the ecosystem.

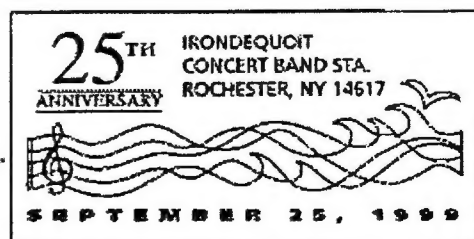
Won't you join us too? This is a great opportunity to collectively advance the hobby and increase membership within our own clubs as well. For further information, write:

NSCM Celebration, 42 Maynard Street, Rochester, NY 14615-2022



Hervey Ely House
Built in 1837
11 Livingston Park

HEH Station
Rochester, NY 14608
September 9, 1999



The Hobby Shop

by

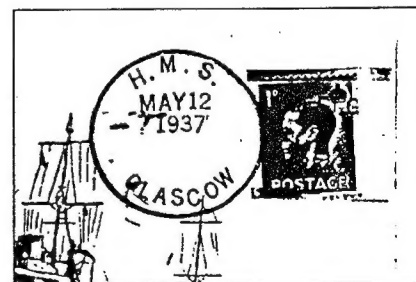
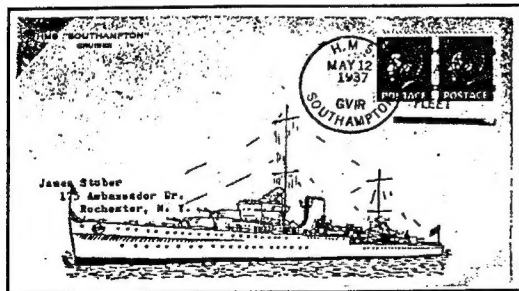
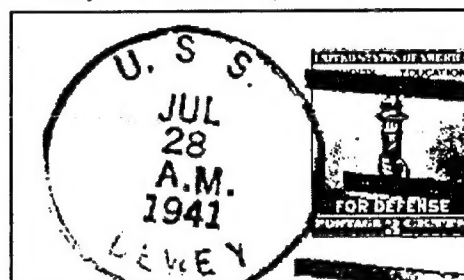
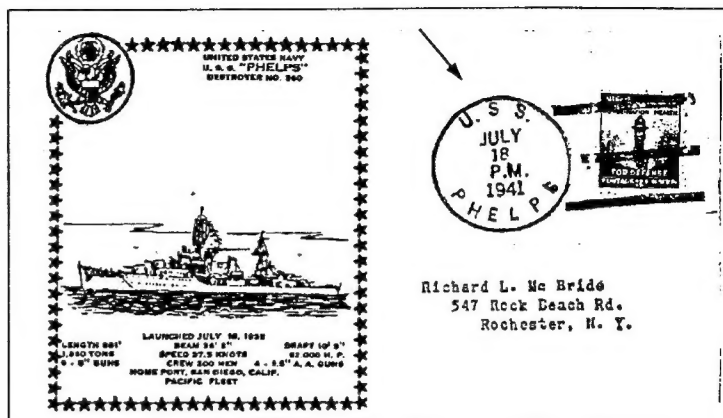
L. Kelly Armstrong, Jr.

I have been a collector of worldwide Naval covers for a number of years and have entered exhibits at the ROPEX and STEPEX stamp shows.

This year I began to put together an exhibit for up coming shows pertaining to The Hobby Shop. This was a stamp outlet located in downtown Rochester, N.Y. in a department store called Sibley, Lindsay and Curr.

Early in 1941, The Hobby Shop sponsored cached envelopes from the U.S. Navy. The goal was to have a set of about 250 covers postmarked during 1941 on every U.S. ship. All went well at first with this plan, but with the "saber rattling" toward war, the plan began to fall apart. By June, The Hobby Shop ran into serious problems, when newly adopted security regulations prohibited Navy mail clerks from postmarking covers for collectors. With orders to fill and only "U.S. Navy" cancels available with no specific ship's names, they began to make their own fake postmarks. They used a device that had slots in the dial for rubber letters to spell out the name of the ship and date changes. There were a few varied types made and used.

The fake and genuine Hobby Shop cancels have been documented by the Universal Ship's Cancel Society and is included in the Catalog of U.S. Navy Postmarks, published by the USCS. while researching material to put in my exhibit, I made a new discovery about the Hobby Shop. These covers are clearly fakes for many reasons. The cachets are like that of the Hobby Shop designs, and the same addressee name appears on both types. British warships have never carried postal facilities and all naval cancels were applied at fleet post offices or postal facilities in the larger naval ports. Their cancels never had a circle with killer bars. The dead giveaway, though, is in a flaw in the cancel itself. There is a small gouge at the top of the circle to the left of the middle letter S in USS and the letter M in HMS. They appear in the same position each time. The date of May 12, 1937 was the coronation of King George VI. It is not clear whether these were faked in 1937 or faked in 1941 and sold as 1937 dated covers. One mystery remains, which is what makes this bobby challenging, intriguing, and fun. What other covers exist in someone's closet that The Hobby Shop faked? We will only know by searching through boxes at stamp shows and estate sales. Keep your eyes open who knows what will be discovered next.



Computer graphic illustration of cancel rim flaw

WELCOME BACK

As of August 23, all but 18 members have renewed their RPA memberships! This is great news, and we thank all who have sent - or handed - in their dues for next year.

However, just as an added reminder we are printing the names of those who should still renew their 1999-2000 memberships. But since we are short of space, we are printing first names only and no spaces! If you find your name here, we hope to hear from you very soon:

**DuncanKarenJimNancyCarlStephenIlya
RobertBevJohnAlice TonyVictorWhitney
CarlEdGeorgeJimDaleStephenJimRoger**



"Notice that the prices are about as high as other places, though?"

Non-Stamp Stamps

The Cinderella Stamp Club of Great Britain, along with a number of related organizations, publishes a quarterly journal called *The Cinderella Philatelist*. Articles are from The Poster Stamp Group, World War I Study Group, World War II Study Group, Telegraph and Telephone Study Group and the British Private Post group. Local issues of the world are also covered in separate write-ups.

The question is asked: "Are Poster Stamps (Cinderellas) ever related to philately?" The editor answers: "We leave that up to the reader/collector. Should the reader ever want a non-postal philatelic challenge, we suggest that he or she try collecting Poster Stamps for philatelic events."

Anyone interested in seeing a few recent issues of *The CP* may contact Florence Wright. She is willing to loan them out to members curious or attracted to the subject(s) of Cinderellas. It's a wide subject and limited only by the collector's choice.

(The journal also prints the meeting dates of the Cinderella Stamp Club - in London - in case anyone wishes to pop in).

"Political Campaign Stamps" by Mark Warda is sure to please anyone even vaguely attracted by Cinderellas. This is probably the most comprehensive catalog of political campaign stamps, seals, and labels ever published. The author says in his introduction that the book includes all political campaign items from 1856 to 1998 known to him after 30 years of research.

The 221-page volume pictures more than 2500 photos of these non-postage "stamps" and lists ranges of prices for each one. The six chapters cover

- Presidential campaigns
- Political party stamps including state and local issues
- Economic topics such as labor unions, taxes, Communism & anti-Communism
- Social causes, like prohibition and anti-prohibition, drugs, birth control, social diseases
- Patriotic which cover wars and peace
- Miscellaneous causes - name it!
(Billboards, gun control, pollution, crime, even noise!)

During a quick look through the pages we saw serious "stamps: such as **"Remember Pearl Harbor"** and **"Fly The Flag"** and other humorous, even foolish, such as **"Alfred E. Neuman for President!"**

If you'd like a look, call Florence Wright who has a copy.

What happens to nondeliverable mail?

From the USPS Web site at <http://www.usps.gov/>

If mail is nondeliverable as addressed, or the address cannot be determined, we make an attempt to determine who the sender is and return the piece. Sometimes we cannot determine who the sender or intended recipient is. In these cases the article is sent to one of four mail recovery centers where it is opened in an attempt to identify either the sender or intended recipient. If this can be determined, the item will be delivered or returned.

If, after opening, we still cannot identify either the intended recipient or sender, the item is held for a period of time in the event a claim or mail loss report is filed by one of the parties. If, after a period of time, the item remains unclaimed it is either disposed of or auctioned.

Postal Service Mail Recovery Centers handle approximately 80 million pieces of mail annually. Most of this mail is diverted to these centers because of improper or illegible addressing, or because the packaging used by the sender is insufficient to prevent damage to, or loss of, the contents of the package. Publication 2, Packaging for Mailing, offers tips on preparing packages for mailing and is available at your local post office.

Why does the Postal Service have minimum size standards?

We cannot effectively process mail smaller than our minimum size standards without causing damage to mail processing equipment, other mail pieces, and/or the small mail pieces themselves. Pieces that are smaller than our minimum size standards tend to be unstable when processed on mechanized and automated mail sorting equipment. As a result, these pieces get caught in mail processing equipment and damage the equipment as, well as other mail pieces. Their small size makes them difficult to handle manually also.

In order to be mailable a piece must be at least be rectangular in shape, at least 3 1/2 inches high, 5 inches long (5 1/2 inches for international mail), and at least .007 inch thick (about the thickness of a postal card). Mail pieces not meeting these standards are returned to sender - usually under separate cover in a larger Postal Service envelop, with postage due charged to the mailer for the handling costs involved.

Hinges & Tongs

Rochester Philatelic Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 10206, Brighton Station
Rochester, N.Y. 14610-0206



Articles may be submitted to:
Joseph K. Doles, editor
105 Lawson Road
Rochester NY 14616-1444

9205

THOMAS M FORTUNATO
42 MAYNARD STREET
ROCHESTER NY 14615

